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1 1. (currently amended) A method of providing continuing medical education credit to a first
 2 physician for a consultation between the first physician and a second physician, the
 3 consultation being conducted through an intermediary, the intermediary being connected
 4 by a telecommunications system to both the first and second physicians, and
 5 the method comprising the steps performed in the intermediary of:

6 receiving a comment made with regard to the consultation via the telecommunications
 7 system from the second physician in the intermediary; and

8 providing the comment to a medical information specialist in the intermediary who is
 9 neither the first nor the second physician, the medical information specialist
 10 providingdetermining whether any continuing medical education credit resulting-is to result from
 11 the consultation represented by the comment and if continuing medical education credit is to
 12 result, by recording the resulting continuing medical education credit in a database accessible
 13 from the intermediary.

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1 2. (previously presented) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set forth
 2 in claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

3 retrieving instructional material relevant to the comment and the consultation from the
 4 data base and

5 providing the instructional material to the first physician via the telecommunications
 6 system,

7 the step of retrieving instructional material being performed by the medical information
8 specialist.

1 3. (previously presented) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set forth
2 in claim 2 wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

3 providing an examination based on at least the instructional material via the
4 telecommunications system;

5 receiving answers for the examination from the first physician via the
6 telecommunications system;

7 grading the received answers,

8 the continuing medical education credit resulting from the consultation if the first physician
9 passes the examination.

1 4. (previously presented) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set
2 forth in claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

3 providing an examination based on at least the comment to the first physician via the
4 telecommunications system;

5 receiving answers for the examination from the first physician via the
6 telecommunications system;

7 grading the received answers,

8 the continuing medical education credit resulting from the consultation if the first physician
9 passes the examination.